

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An apparatus, comprising:

one or more intelligent network platforms that serve to provide feedback to be played
5 to a calling communication device during a call from the calling communication device for a
called communication device;

wherein one or more of the one or more intelligent network platforms allow a user of
the called communication device to preselect one or more portions of the feedback;

wherein one or more of the one or more intelligent network platforms employ
10 signaling to connect the call from the calling communication device to an intelligent network
platform of the one or more intelligent network platforms.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the call comprises a first call leg and a
second call leg, wherein the one or more of the one or more intelligent network platforms that
employ signaling to connect the call between the calling communication device and the
15 called communication device employ signaling to connect the first call leg from the calling
communication device to the intelligent network platform;

wherein the one or more of the one or more intelligent network platforms that employ
signaling to connect the call between the calling communication device and the called
communication device employ signaling to connect the second call leg from the intelligent
20 network platform to the called communication device.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the intelligent network platform connects a
call bridge between the first call leg and the second call leg to connect the calling
communication device with the called communication device.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein upon detection of a need to bridge the first and second call legs, one or more of the one or more intelligent network platforms employ a call drop-back command to direct one or more switching centers that support the first and second call legs.

5 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the one or more portions of the feedback comprise a ringback tone preselected by the user of the called communication device;

wherein the intelligent network platform plays the ringback tone to the calling communication device.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the intelligent network platform plays the
10 ringback tone at the calling communication device between receipt of the call from the calling communication device and answer of the call by the called communication device.

7. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the one or more of the one or more intelligent network platforms that allow a user of the called communication device to preselect the ringback tone allow the user to customize the ringback tone for the call from the
15 calling communication device.

8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the call from the calling communication device comprises a first call from a first calling communication device, wherein the ringback tone comprises a first ringback tone;

wherein the one or more of the one or more intelligent network platforms that allow a
20 user of the called communication device to preselect the first ringback tone allow the user to customize a second ringback tone for a second call to be played to a second calling communication device;

wherein the second ringback tone is different than the first ringback tone.

9. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the one or more portions of the feedback comprise a customized call progress indication preselected by the user of the called communication device;

wherein the intelligent network platform plays the call progress indication at the
5 calling communication device upon occurrence of an event associated with the call progress indication.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the intelligent network platform comprises an intelligent peripheral, wherein the one or more intelligent network platforms comprise a service control point, wherein the call comprises a first call leg and a second call leg;

10 wherein the service control point employs signaling to route the first call leg to the intelligent peripheral;

wherein the intelligent peripheral bridges the first call leg with the second call leg to connect the calling communication device with the called communication device on the call.

11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the intelligent network platform comprises
15 an intelligent peripheral, wherein the one or more intelligent network platforms comprise a service control point, wherein the call comprises a first call leg and a second call leg;

wherein a switching center supports the calling communication device;

wherein the intelligent peripheral directs the switching center to connect the calling communication device with the called communication device on the call and to release the
20 first and second call legs to the intelligent peripheral.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the service control point determines that the call requires the one or more portions of the feedback that are preselected by the user of the called communication device, wherein the service control point instructs a switching center that supports the calling communication device to connect with the intelligent peripheral on the first call leg;

wherein the intelligent peripheral queries the service control point for the one or more portions of the feedback to be played to the calling communication device;

wherein the service control point determines the one or more portions of the feedback based on one or more characteristics associated with the call, wherein the service control point indicates the one or more portions of the feedback to the intelligent peripheral;

wherein the intelligent peripheral plays the one or more portions of the feedback at the calling communication device;

wherein the intelligent peripheral initiates the second call leg to the called communication device.

13. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the call comprises a first call leg and a second call leg, wherein the first call leg comprises an indication of a telephone number dialed by a user of the calling communication device;

wherein upon detection of redirection request associated with the telephone number, one or more of the one or more intelligent network platforms substitute a telephone number of the called communication device for the telephone number dialed by the user of the calling communication device in the second call leg to connect the calling communication device with the called communication device.

14. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the signaling comprises wireless intelligent network signaling, wherein the one or more intelligent network platforms employ the wireless intelligent network signaling and one or more of American National Standards Institute ("ANSI") and Integrated Services Digital Network User Part ("ISUP") messages to
5 play the feedback at the calling communication device and connect the calling communication device with the called communication;

wherein the one or more intelligent network platforms employ the signaling in accordance with ANSI standards.

15. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the signaling comprises International
10 Telecommunication Union ("ITU-T") signaling, wherein the one or more intelligent network platforms employ the ITU-T signaling to play the feedback at the calling communication device and connect the calling communication device with the called communication;

wherein the one or more intelligent network platforms employ the ITU-T signaling in accordance with International Telecommunication Union ("ITU-T") standards.

15 16. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the signaling comprises one or more of intelligent network triggers and intelligent network trigger address lists;

wherein the one or more intelligent network platforms set the one or more of intelligent network triggers and intelligent network trigger address lists to route the call.

17. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the intelligent network platform comprises a first intelligent network platform, wherein a second intelligent network platform of the one or more intelligent network platforms employs signaling to route the call to the first intelligent network platform;

5 wherein the first intelligent network platform plays the feedback at the calling communication device.

18. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the intelligent network platform plays the feedback to the calling communication device with or without connection of the call to the called communication device.

10 19. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the call comprises a first call leg and a second call leg, wherein the first call leg connects the calling communication device and the intelligent network platform, wherein the second call leg connects the intelligent network platform and the called communication device;

wherein the intelligent network platform delays connection of the second call leg with
15 the called communication device to extend a duration of the feedback played at the calling communication device.

20. A method, comprising the steps of:

allowing a user of a called communication device to preselect customized feedback for a calling communication device;

employing signaling to route a call from the calling communication device to an intelligent network platform; and

playing the customized feedback at the calling communication device based on one or more characteristics of the call.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the customized feedback comprises a ringback tone, wherein the step of allowing the user of the called communication device to

preselect customized feedback for the calling communication device comprises the step of:

allowing the user of the called communication device to setup one or more criteria for the ringback tone to be played to the calling communication device;

wherein the step of playing the customized feedback at the calling communication device based on the one or more characteristics of the call comprises the step of:

playing the customized feedback at the calling communication device upon a match between the one or more characteristics of the call and one or more of the one or more criteria.

22. The method of claim 20, wherein the call comprises a first call leg and a second call leg, wherein the step of employing signaling to route the call from the calling communication device to the intelligent network platform comprises the steps of:

employing signaling to connect the first call leg with the calling communication
5 device;

employing signaling to connect the second call leg with the called communication device; and

bridging the first call leg with the second call leg to communicatively couple the calling communication device with the called communication device.

10 23. The method of claim 22, wherein the customized feedback comprises a ringback tone, wherein the step of employing signaling to connect the first call leg with the calling communication device comprises the steps of:

determining that the called communication device has set up the ringback tone for the call from the calling communication device;

15 indicating to the calling communication device to route the first call leg to the intelligent network platform; and

playing the ringback tone at the calling communication device between a receipt of the first call leg at the intelligent network platform and an answer by the called communication device.

24. The method of claim 20, wherein the call comprises a first call leg and a second call leg, wherein the first call leg comprises an indication of a telephone number dialed by a user of the calling communication device;

wherein the step of employing signaling to route the call from the calling
5 communication device to the intelligent network platform comprises the steps of:

detecting a redirection request to route calls for the telephone number to the called communication number;

substituting a telephone number of the called communication device for the telephone number dialed by the user of the calling communication device in the second call leg; and

10 bridging the first call leg with the second call leg to communicatively couple the calling communication device with the called communication device.

25. An article, comprising:

one or more computer-readable signal-bearing media;

means in the one or more media for allowing a user of a called communication device to preselect customized feedback for a calling communication device;

5 means in the one or more media for employing signaling to route a call from the calling communication device to an intelligent network platform; and

means in the one or more media for playing the customized feedback at the calling communication device based on one or more characteristics of the call.

* * * * *